would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether there are reports that infiltrators from Pakistan have crossed over to the Indian territory to perpetrate violence in Punjab.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Government is aware that Pakistani infiltrators are sneaking into India across the border. Government is aware of it. We are taking appropriate steps by pushing them out. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): May I add to this reply? In fact, some of the Pakistanis have come on valid passports and there are also who have come illegally. Without passports, there are a large number of people who have come over to India. So long as their intentions were very peaceful, we never objected to it. After all, we came from the same stock. (*Interruptions*) What is it that you are talking? (*Interruptions*) You must have the patience to understand the things. Without understanding, you are just crying '*hey-hey-hey*'. (*Interruptions*) You have to understand this. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: As I was stating just now, so long as the intentions were very peaceful, we never took a very serious note of it. The State Governments were delegated all the powers. But now we feel that intentions are definitely not congenial for maintaining the cordial relationship between the countries. The State Governments also are most reluctant to take action about this matter. That is why, now the Central Government will be again requesting the State Governments to follow this as a kind of project where they should pursue this matter on a priority basis. Otherwise, we will have to think in terms of taking away these powers and exercising the powers by the Central Government itself. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker Sir, I am surprised hearing this reply. I would think that in the matter of illegal migration or immigration into the country, intentions are totally irrelevant. But my question relates to what the Minister of State earlier replied. For the first time, the House has been informed that in Delhi, which is a Union Territory, there are about one lakh Bangladeshis who are illegally migrated here. What steps are being taken by the Government to identify them and to ensure that proper action is taken to see that these illegal immigrants are sent back?

SHRI M.M.JACOB: Sir, still the total figure regarding Bangladeshis in India is actually in a nebulous state because we have a very liberal attitude towards the Bangladeshis. Even the visa was covered under the rule, Special Agreement in 1972 regarding Bangladeshis. We are following the same pattern as in other places while we are detecting those people who are overstaying illegally. Our intention is to see that they are sent back. Our intention is to send them back.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Elections in Punjab

*147. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to create conditions in Punjab for a free and fair poll;

(b) whether different factions of Akali Dal and the militants are likely to participate in the proposed elections;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against such organisations/persons as are openly demanding a right to secede from the country; and

(d) whether the Government propose to hold talks with them for a peaceful settlement of the Punjab problem?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) A series of steps have been initiated to create conditions in Punjab for a free and fair poll. These include deployment of Army and paramilitary forces to check infiltration of terrorists and smuggling of arms from across the border, provide assistance to the civil authorities give a sense of security to all the people and remove the fear of coersion and intimidation.

(b) It would be for the political parties to decide about their participation in the elections. It is, however hoped that all democratically oriented will participate.

(c) Information is being collected from the state Government and shall be placed on the Table of the House.

(d) The Government believes in finding an amicable solution to all the problems through peaceful means, dialogue and discussions.

Bodo Problem

***148. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether army had to be deployed recently in the Bodo dominated areas of Assam to counter the situation arising out of Bodo militancy;

(b) if so, the total number of casualties due to Bodo violence and the action taken by the army;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to take steps to find a negotiated settlement of the Bodo issue;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the factors that have contributed to the Bodo problem?

THE MINISTER OF HOME ARRAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bodo violence has resulted in 76 casualties from 1st January, 1991 till 28.11.1991. six persons have been arrested in army action.

(c) and (d). The Union Government have appointed a Three-Member Expert Committee which has been requested to submit its report by 31.1.1992.

(e) Perceived grievances of the Bodos include disparity in development, suppression of their language and culture, alienation of their land, inadequate representation in public services, and a feeling of non-participation in the management of their affairs.

Shortage of Power

***149. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state.**

(a) the estimated shortage of power at present in the country; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CON-